

## MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Richard Meyers, City Manager

SUBJECT: Friday Update

DATE: July 19, 2019

### **Howdy Y'all**

Bohemia Mining Days is in full swing. It kicked off last night with the Bloomers Parade and all the locations seemed to draw a pretty good crowd. The festivities go until 11:00 tonight and tomorrow night in Coiner Park, Bohemia Park and this year also in Trailhead Park. Hope everyone gets out to enjoy some of the activities of BMD.

### **Happy Ending**

Last Saturday, a couple and their young daughter were at the City ponds fishing in the Row River Nature Park off Row River Road. At some point their daughter fell off the dock into the water. When her dad reached down to pull her out of the water his wallet fell into the pond. They contacted the City by email off the City's webpage explaining that the wallet was lost in the pond and asked if there was anything the City could do to help recover the wallet. The City Manager shared the information with staff on Monday morning and asked if there were any ideas as to how to recover the wallet from the pond. It was determined that the sewer camera would not work because of the murkiness of the water. Staff began asking around about any divers in the community, when it was discovered that Marine Industrial Tank Diving and Coating (MIT), a dive team was at the Row River Water Treatment Plant cleaning water storage tanks at the treatment plant.

The Water Treatment Plant Supervisor, Ray Pardee, shared information about the incident regarding the lost wallet with MIT crew and they offered to try to find it upon completing cleaning of the tanks. At about 6:30 pm MIT met the family at the ponds to try and find the wallet. A short time later the diver (Andy) came up from under the water, covered in mud, algae, fishing lines and plant life with a wallet in his hand. This was not an easy task as the bottom of the pond is covered with a layer of mud approximately 2 feet deep. Andy was laying on top of the mud reaching down through it trying to locate the wallet by feel with his hands.



What are the chances a dive team would be in the community two days after the couple lost the wallet, them being willing to look for it, and coupled with extremely difficult conditions on the bottom of the pond let alone find the wallet. This truly was a miracle. A big thank you to Marine Industrial Tank Diving and Coating for their willingness to help. The family and City thank everyone involved for creating this happy ending.

### **Yard of the Week**

This week the Yard of the week is located at 1661 N. Hwy 99 #19. The small yard is a wonderful example of what can be done with baskets and planters. The yard is a colorful work of art with a wealth of flowers and plants that create a stunning display.

### **Beeper**

The City Manager will be on KNND's Beeper Show on Monday, July 22, 2019 from 9:00 to 10:00 am.

### **Swinging Bridge Project Update**

Hamilton Construction completed the demolition of the old Swinging Bridge last week and are now installing steel reinforcement bars and forms so that concrete can be poured Monday, July 29. The new concrete will increase the size of each existing abutment in order to accommodate the larger loads required by the structural engineers. Also this week, new suspension cables were strength-tested in Texas and are on schedule for delivery in September. Overall, the project remains on schedule for completion in early November, 2019.

There will be a week-long lane shift on South River Road at the Swinging Bridge location from Monday, July 22 through Monday, July 29, during the working hours. Watch for bicycles merging into the traffic lanes as well as construction equipment, such as dump trucks and loaders, adjacent to the north bound lane of S River Rd.

### **Street Striping Update**

On Wednesday night Lane County started repainting all the street striping on City roads with the intent to finish early Thursday morning. Unfortunately it started raining about half way through the night not allowing them to finish the painting. Lane County will be back Sunday night to complete the painting. It looks like the weather will be good and barring no hang ups, the painting will be completed Monday morning.

### **City Wide Tree Inventory**

On Tuesday this week the Coast Fork Youth Conservation Corps members spent about four hours beginning the first of many data collecting sessions to complete a city-wide street tree inventory. They successfully mapped approximately 100 trees near Downtown and along the Coast Fork Willamette. The Urban Forestry Committee and the City are working together with the Coast Fork Youth Conservation Corps with the hope of completing the city-wide inventory by late October. When completed, each tree along public right-of-ways will be mapped and cataloged allowing staff to track maintenance and prevent disease. If you are interested in volunteering your time to inventory street trees contact Eric Mongan, Assistant Planner, at (541)942-3340.

### **Oregon City/County Manager Conference**

The City Manager (and a U of O Grad Student/City of Sutherlin Intern that lives in Cottage Grove) attended the Oregon City/County Management Association Summer conference last week. The conference covered a wealth of topics in local government management including financial forecasting, personnel law changes, social media, ballot measure processes and included ample opportunities to network and discuss specific community issues with other managers and share ideas and information.

### **Regional Manager's Meeting**

The City Manager attended a meeting with local government managers within Lane County on Thursday this week. The managers received a report on the recent Broadband Work Shops that were held in the County and discussed the next some of the next steps to move forward on issues associated with continuing to meet the broadband needs of the communities. The managers also got to meet the new Administrator for Oakridge, who had been on the job 3 days and the interim manager from Springfield.

### **Mayor's Golf Tournament**

There is still room for a few more golfers in the Mayor's Golf Tournament on Saturday, July 27<sup>th</sup>. Call the City Manager's office for more information and to register for this great event.

### **Rock, Roll and Rumble and Chili Cookoff**

Also on Saturday classic cars and chili will be rolling into Downtown Cottage Grove for KNND's Rock, Roll and Rumble and the Annual Chili Cookoff. Be sure to make your way downtown to check out the activities.

### **Eugene Symphony**

On Monday, July 29<sup>th</sup> the Eugene Symphony will be visiting Cottage Grove for their 5<sup>th</sup> Annual concert in Bohemia Park. The concert will begin at 7:30 pm. The summer concert series for the Eugene Symphony is made possible by major sponsors: Pacific Source, City of Cottage Grove, Payne West Insurance, Dr. Jonathan E. Backer and the Woodard Foundation. Numerous table sponsors and other donors also help bring the Symphony to Cottage Grove. Check out the concert program at the event for a complete list of the sponsors. Please take opportunities to thank the sponsors and donors that make the concert possible. Additional sponsorship and donation opportunities still exist and are needed to continue this wonderful community event. Contact the City Manager's office or Jessica Klarr at the Community Center (541)942-1185 for more information.

### **Instrument Petting Zoo**

On Monday, July 29<sup>th</sup> from 5:30 to 7:15 pm members from the Eugene Symphony and other local volunteers will be at the Bohemia Park Pavilion to share hands-on information about musical instruments in the symphony. Kids of all ages, 1 to 99, are invited to stop by to learn more about instruments and actually get to touch and make music (sounds) with the instruments.

Additionally the symphony is looking for any volunteers that would like to help share their knowledge about an instrument. Anyone interested in volunteering please e-mail Instrument Petting Zoo Volunteer Coordinator Kathie Hsieh at [kathie.hsieh@eugenesymphony.org](mailto:kathie.hsieh@eugenesymphony.org) with your name and the primary instrument or instruments you can help with. All volunteers will receive a ticket voucher for a free ticket to any 2019/20 Eugene Symphony subscription series concert (excludes specials: Star Wars, Leslie Odom Jr., Peter and The Wolf, SYMFEST w/ Ben Folds).

### **Enforcement Overtime Grant**

Cottage Grove Police Department has received preliminary approval from the ODOT Transportation Safety Division for a grant to cover overtime for patrol officers for the following special enforcement efforts: Speed Enforcement, Safety Belts/Child Passenger Safety Enforcement, Pedestrian Safety Enforcement and Distracted Driver Enforcement. The \$21,500 grant will cover enforcement campaigns from October 1, 2019 to September 30, 2020.

### **H2O (Help to Others) Program**

Community Sharing and the City of Cottage Grove teamed up to offer a great program where every community member has an opportunity to help their neighbor in need. The H2O Program was established in 2011 and helps many families each year. The City of Cottage Grove collects donations via the water/sewer bills and sends 100% of the funds to Community Sharing. Community Sharing in turn spends 100% of the H2O funds providing assistance to those who need a temporary helping hand with their water/sewer utility bill.

If you are interesting in donating to the H2O program please contact the Finance Department.

### *Quote of the Week*

*“You can forget facts but you cannot forget understanding.”*

*~Eric Mazur~*